

**In the Abstract**

Please amend the existing abstract as follows:

**ABSTRACT**

A method of authenticating, using an authentication server, the use of an authentication device over a communication network via an intermediate communication device, comprising:

- receiving an authentication datagram by ~~said~~the intermediate device;
  - protecting ~~said~~the datagram by ~~said~~the intermediate device, by at least one of changing, adding to, encrypting and signing of ~~said~~the datagram; and
- forwarding ~~said~~the datagram to ~~said~~the authentication server for authentication.